

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Amphoteric liposomes having an isoelectric point of between 4 and 7, wherein the liposomes comprise at least one amphipatic cationic lipid, at least one amphipatic anionic lipid, and at least about 30% of one neutral lipid, and wherein said liposomes are stable at pH 4.2 and pH 7.5.

2. (ORIGINAL) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 1, wherein the liposomes have an isoelectric point of between 5 and 7.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) Amphoteric liposomes, wherein the liposomes comprise at least one amphipatic lipid with both a positive charge and a negative charge, and at least about 30% of one neutral lipid, wherein the amphoteric liposomes have an isoelectric point of between 4 and 8 and are stable at pH 4.2 and pH 7.5.

4. (CANCELED)

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 3, wherein the liposomes further comprise at least one amphipatic lipid with a positive charge or at least one amphipatic lipid with a negative charge.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 3, wherein the liposomes have an isoelectric point between 5 and 7.

7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 1, 2, 3, 5, or 6, wherein said neutral lipid is selected from the group consisting of phosphatidyl choline, phosphatidyl ethanolamine, cholesterol, tetraether lipid, ceramide, sphingolipid, and diacyl glycerol.

8. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 1 or 3, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 50 and 1000 nm.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 1 or 3, wherein the liposomes comprise an active ingredient.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 9, wherein the active ingredient is a protein, a peptide, a DNA, and RNA, antisense nucleotide and/or a decoy nucleotide.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 9, wherein at least 80 percent of the active ingredient is in the interior of the liposome.

12. (WITHDRAWN) A method for charging liposomes with active ingredients of claim 1, wherein a defined pH is used for the encapsulation and a second pH is used for separating the material, which has not been bound.

13. (WITHDRAWN) The method for charging liposomes with active ingredient of claim 1, wherein the liposomes are permeabilized and closed off at a define pH.

14-20. (CANCELED)

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 8, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 70 and 250 nm.

22. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 8, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 60 and 130 nm.

23. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 1 wherein the anionic lipid is a weak anion and the cationic lipid is a strong cation and the anion is present in excess over the cation.

24. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said weakly anionic lipid is selected from the group consisting of cholesterol hemisuccinate (CHEMS), diacyl glycerol hemisuccinate, fatty acids and phosphatidyl serine.

25. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said strongly cationic lipid is selected from the group consisting of DOTAP, DC-Chol, DORIE, DDAB, TC-Chol, DOTMA, DOGS, (C18)₂Gly⁺ N,N-dioctadecylamido-glycin, CTAB, CPyC and DOEPC.

26. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein the anionic lipid is CHEMS or diacylglycerol hemisuccinate, the cationic lipid is DOTAP or DC-Chol and the neutral lipid is phosphatidylcholine.

27. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 50 mol.% POPC, about 20 mol.% DOTAP and about 30 mol.% CHEMS.

28. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 50 mol.% POPC, about 10 mol.% DOTAP and about 40 mol.% CHEMS.

29. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 60 mol.% POPC, about 10 mol.% DOTAP and about 30 mol.% CHEMS.

30. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 60 mol.% POPC, about 15 mol.% DOTAP and about 25 mol.% CHEMS.

31. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 30 mol.% POPC, about 30 mol.% DOTAP and about 40 mol.% CHEMS.

32. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 23, wherein said liposome comprises about 60 mol.% POPC, about 15 mol.% DC-Chol and about 25 mol.% CHEMS.

33. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 1, wherein the anionic lipid is a weak anion and the cationic lipid is a weak cation.

34. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 33, wherein said weakly anionic lipid is selected from the group consisting of cholesteryl hemisuccinate (CHEMS), diacyl glycerol hemisuccinate, fatty acids and phosphatidyl serine.

35. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 33, wherein said weakly cationic lipid is selected from the group consisting of HisChol and MoChol

36. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 33, wherein said weakly anionic lipid is CHEMS or diacylglycerol hemisuccinate, said weakly cationic lipid is HisChol or MoChol and the neutral lipid is phosphatidylcholine.

37. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 33, wherein said liposome comprises about 55 mol.% POPC, about 40 mol.% HisChol and about 5 mol.% CHEMS.

38. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 33, wherein said liposome comprises about 60 mol.% POPC, about 20 mol.% HisChol and about 20 mol.% CHEMS.

39. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 1, wherein the anionic lipid is a strong anion and the cationic lipid is a weak cation and the cation is present in excess over the anion.

40. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 39, wherein said strongly anionic lipid is selected from the group consisting of cholesterol sulphate, cholesterol phosphate, phosphatidyl glycerol, phosphatidic acid, phosphatidyl inositol, cetyl phosphate.

41. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 39, wherein said weakly cationic lipid is selected from the group consisting of HisChol and MoChol

42. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 39, wherein said strongly anionic lipid is selected from phosphatidylglycerol, phosphatidic acid, or cetyl phosphate and said weakly cationic lipid is selected from HisChol or MoChol and the neutral lipid is phosphatidylcholine.

43. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes of claim 39, wherein said liposome comprises about 47,5 mol.% POPC, about 40 mol.% HisChol and about 12,5 mol.% DPPG.

44. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes comprise at least one amphipatic molecule with a positive charge and at least one amphipatic molecule with a negative charge and a neutral lipid, wherein said amphoteric liposome is not cationic at physiological pH.

45. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 44, wherein said neutral lipid is selected from the group consisting of phosphatidyl choline, phosphatidyl ethanolamine, cholesterol, tetraether lipid, ceramide, sphingolipid, and diacyl glycerol.

46. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 44, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 50 and 1000 nm.

47. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 44, wherein the liposomes comprise an active ingredient.

48. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 47, wherein the active ingredient is a protein, a peptide, a DNA, and RNA, antisense nucleotide and/or a decoy nucleotide.

49. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 47, wherein at least 80 percent of the active ingredient is in the interior of the liposome.

50. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 46, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 70 and 250 nm.

51. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 46, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 60 and 130 nm.

52. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) Amphoteric liposomes comprise at least one amphipatic molecule with a positive charge and at least one amphipatic molecule with a negative charge and a neutral lipid, wherein said amphoteric liposome is anionic or neutral at physiological pH.

53. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 52, wherein said neutral lipid is selected from the group consisting of phosphatidyl choline, phosphatidyl ethanolamine, cholesterol, tetraether lipid, ceramide, sphingolipid, and diacyl glycerol.

54. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 52, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 50 and 1000 nm.

55. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 52, wherein the liposomes comprise an active ingredient.

56. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 55, wherein the active ingredient is a protein, a peptide, a DNA, and RNA, antisense nucleotide and/or a decoy nucleotide.

57. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 55, wherein at least 80 percent of the active ingredient is in the interior of the liposome.

58. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 54, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 70 and 250 nm.

59. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The amphoteric liposomes of claim 54, wherein the liposomes have an average size of between 60 and 130 nm.